

**The City of Springfield, Ohio
City Commission Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 30, 2021 – 2:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM Internet Application**

In an effort to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, a special virtual meeting was called to order by President Copeland following three public hearings. Roll call was answered by Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue and Mr. Copeland.

The invocation was offered by Mr. Copeland, who then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, members approved the minutes of the March 16, 2021, Executive Session and Legislative Meeting as presented.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

FIRST READINGS—ORDINANCES

The following legislation was read by title only for the first time and requires presentation at a second regular meeting before vote on passage:

094-21 Authorizing participation in the ODOT winter contract for Road Salt.

095-21 Authorizing the issuance of a purchase order for the purchase of two (2) Stainless Steel Dump Bodies, including bed covers and road temperature sensors, from K.E. Rose Co. for an amount not to exceed \$183,390.00.

096-21 Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Cropland Lease Agreement [2021-2025] with Joseph Agle to lease 74.466 acres at the Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport, of which 42.933 acres are tillable farmland; and confirming and approving services provided by Joseph Agle from December 1, 2020 to the passage of this ordinance.

097-21 Authorizing the City Manager to submit the 2021 Action Plan of The City of Springfield, Ohio to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"); authorizing the City Manager, Law Director and Finance Director enter into grant agreements and to do all things they deem necessary to implement, operate and administer the City's Community Development Block Grant Program, Emergency Solutions Grant Program and HOME Program for the 2021 fiscal year (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022).

Dr. Estrop asked for additional information on the Action Plan. Finance Director Beckdahl explained the document details how the three programs' funds would be allocated upon receipt. The public comment period for the 2021 Action Plan ends April 12, 2021, and a copy of the draft plan is available on the City's website.

~~~~~ Next regular City Commission meeting: April 13, 2021. ~~~~~

**SECOND READINGS—ORDINANCES**

The following legislation was presented for a second time:

**74-21      Ordinance No. 21-104: Authorizing the Law Director to approve and settle a claim with Suzanne Binz for expenses incurred as a result of damage that occurred on her property located at 3586 Kingsgate Court on or about January 31, 2021; and authorizing the Director of Finance to make payment to Suzanne Binz in the amount of One Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$1,400.00) as full and final settlement for said damages.**

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**75-21      Ordinance No. 21-105: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Cropland Lease Agreement [2021-2025] with Raven Farms LLC to lease 5.0 acres at 5721 Plattsburg Road, of which 4.8 acres are tillable farm land.**

On motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**225-18      Ordinance No. 21-106: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into Amendment No. 1 to the Consulting Agreement with Urban Fast Forward, Ltd. for the Springfield Engaged Neighborhood Planning Process Development (Phase II) to extend the completion date to October 15, 2021.**

On motion of Mrs. Chilton, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**76-21      Ordinance No. 21-107: Confirming and approving a Development Incentive Agreement (Single Family Residential Development) with Christopher & Lisa Saunders to provide for water services to real property outside the City limits.**

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

### **EMERGENCY ORDINANCES**

The following emergency legislation was presented for the first time:

**98-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-108: Authorizing the City Manager to apply for, accept and enter into a Cooperative Agreement to finance the 2021 Waterline Replacement - Mt. Joy Project with the Ohio Water Development Authority ("OWDA"); and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mrs. Chilton, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**99-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-109: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into Amendment No. 2 to the Engineering Agreement with Carpenter Marty Transportation, Inc. for the 2022 Miscellaneous Sewer Improvements Project to increase the agreement in the amount of \$53,858.09 for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$96,110.64; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Upon question from Mrs. Chilton, Service Director Moore explained the project was previously approved, but the amendment adds additional sanitary sewer work on Rodgers Drive, Stanton Avenue, and Catherine Street along with Combined Storm Overflow work on East Main Street.

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**100-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-110: Authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept funds from the State of Ohio, Department of Transportation in the amount of \$83,508.00 from the Rides to Community Immunity Grant Program; authorizing the City Manager, Law Director and Director of Finance to perform all acts and execute all documents considered necessary to fulfill the City's obligations under said grant, to comply with all relevant local, state and federal legal requirements, and to provide assurances and additional information as required by the Ohio Department of Transportation; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Dr. Estrop asked for additional detail on grant opportunity. Assistant to the City Manager Cobbs explained the grant provides funding specifically for transporting citizens to COVID-19 testing and vaccination centers. The City currently has transportation services available related to COVID-19, so the staff will work with service providers on ways to best utilize the grant funds. Citizens may call the Springfield City Area Transit's Dial-A-Ride at 937-328-7228 for transport to one of these centers.

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**2-21      Dr. Estrop shared information on a citywide housing survey available at the website [www.thisisourfield.com](http://www.thisisourfield.com) as part of a multi-year strategic plan for housing.**

**2-21      Mrs. Chilton reminded citizens to continue wearing masks in an effort to combat the spread of COVID-19. Case numbers in Clark County have begun to increase once again.**

Mrs. Chilton also asked about the income tax filing deadline. Mr. Beckdahl stated the deadline for filing 2020 city income tax was extended to May 17, 2021, matching the federal and state deadlines.

**2-21      Mr. Rue commented he requested additional information on proposed Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding funeral expense reimbursement related to COVID-19.**

Mr. Rue also thanked city staff for quick responses to citizen inquiries.

**89-20      Dr. Estrop asked for an update on City services, personnel, and finances as the pandemic continues. Ms. Cobbs reported a very low impact on City personnel at this time. The first floor of City Hall reopened on March 16 and the balance of City Hall would fully open on April 5, 2021. The next meeting of the City Commission will be open to the public in the City Forum on April 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. with mask and social distance requirements.**

Mr. Beckdahl reported income tax receipts nearing the end of the first quarter have stabilized to projected balances.

**134-20      Ms. Cobbs announced a grocer has expressed interest in the former Kroger location on South Limestone Street. Staff is hopeful to announce a contract in April or May of this year. Staff continues to work with Urban Fast Forward to connect projects in the area.**

**2-21      Mr. Copeland spoke on possible federal relief funding and indicated the City has not received final information on the amount nor how the money is to be used.**

**2-21      Mr. O'Neill spoke on a new housing development on the former McGuffey School site. The developer plans to build 18-20 new homes.**

### CITIZEN COMMENTS

**59-20** The City Clerk read an email from Mr. Jerome Wray, 329 West Clark Street, speaking on food insecurity following the closure of the former Kroger store on South Limestone Street. Mr. Wray suggested transforming non-productive land in the area into a Farmer's Market.

Dr. Estrop and Mr. Copeland both spoke on existing community gardens in the area. Contact information for area agencies involved would be forwarded to Mr. Wray.

### COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were received and filed:

**77-21** File-stamped copy of Ordinance No. 21-90 as filed with the Clark County Auditor.

**89-21** Notification from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control of a liquor permit transfer request from Ambalica LLC, 18 Buxton Avenue, Springfield, Ohio 45505 to Jay Mahakali 359 Inc. dba Candy Drive Thru, 18 Buxton Avenue, Springfield, Ohio 45505.

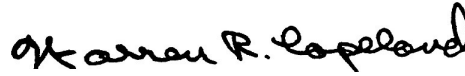
**93-21** Notification from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control of a new liquor permit request for Moga 4 Enterprises Inc. dba Sunoco Gas Station, 1053 Selma Road, Springfield, Ohio 45505.

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There being no further business, on motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.



PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION



CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION